

1213. *PODICIPES CRISTATUS* (Linn.).

At least six pairs of Great Crested Grebes nested this spring on Koukليا reservoir. I obtained the first eggs on May the 6th from Mr. A. Douglas.

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XIX.—*Note on a rare Weaver-bird* (*Othyphantes batesi*).

By W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, M.B.O.U.

(Plate VI.)

THIS very handsome species of Weaver-bird was described by the late Dr. Bowdler Sharpe as *Othyphantes batesi* from a female procured by Mr. G. L. Bates on the River Ja, Cameroon (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1908, p. 348). The type-specimen, which bears the collector's number 1372, has the cheeks olive-yellow mixed with black, and is evidently not quite mature. Subsequently the same collector forwarded to the British Museum an adult male bird, shot at Kumangola, River Ja, which he believed to be referable to the same species, and Dr. Sharpe exhibited it as such [*cf.* *Bull. B. O. C.* xxv. p. 41 (1909)].

Mr. Bates's description is as follows:—

“*Adult male*.—Somewhat resembles the male of *Sitagra brachyptera* (Swains.), from which it differs chiefly in having the crown and entire sides of the head chestnut and in lacking the black patch behind the eye, while the upper parts are darker olive-green. The chin is chestnut and the yellow of the under parts commences directly below the black throat. Iris dark brown; bill black; feet bluish-grey. Total length about 5·5 inches; culmen 0·7; wing 2·85; tail 1·85; tarsus 0·75.

“*Hab.* River Ja, Cameroon, 17th November, 1908.”

The types-pecimen, as already stated, is not quite mature, and Mr. Bates informs us that in the fully adult female the “sides of the head are perfectly black.” In the type-specimen the bastard primary is longer than in the adult male and measures 1·05 inch, as compared with 0·7 inch, but this, no doubt, is also a sign of immaturity.

The lower figure in Plate VI. represents the not quite adult female and the upper figure the adult male.



H. Grönvold del.

West, Newman imp.

OTHYPHANTES BATESI ♂ & ♀.